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rangement enables me to throw the beam on the object at all angles of incidence, whether from beneath, as in the case of translucent, or from above, in the case of opaque objects, and as the sector is graduated, I have the power of observing and restoring any position at pleasure.

"To fulfil the second condition, the stage of the microscope is made to revolve round the optical axis, and in a plane perpendicular to it. This is effected by constructing the stage on entirely a new plan, in which the slow motions are obtained from concentric rings forming a part of the stage itself, and equally available in every position of the latter. By this arrangement the beam of light may be thrown on an object in any azimuth, and a suitable graduation of the stage enables the observer to register and restore its position at any time.

"Hereafter," continued Mr. Grubb, "I hope to lay before the Academy some of the results obtained by the use of these arrangements; at present I shall conclude by observing that they are of a highly interesting character, and likely to lead to important discoveries."

Dr. Allman presented to the Academy the results of some unfinished observations he is at present engaged in on the Claviform and Sertularian Zoophytes. He has found that the medusoid structure, hitherto supposed to be confined to the free locomotive gemmæ of these animals, exists also in the fixed ovisacs, though generally so far disguised as to render it easily overlooked. This structure he has found in Coryne, Syncoryne, Tubularia, Cordylophora, and Sertularia; and he believed himself justified in generalizing the observed facts into the proposition that a medusoid structure in some form is necessary in these zoophytes for the production of true ova.

MONDAY, MAY 24TH, 1852.

THOMAS ROMNEY ROBINSON, D. D., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

Mr. J. HUBAND SMITH exhibited a stone urn, with a glass urn, found in a tumulus at Dunadry, county of Antrim.

On its surface there was a rich, black, loamy soil, and the farmer on whose land it was, having resolved to spread it over the adjoining ground, proceeded to remove it for that purpose, and in doing so came to the cairn, in which he discovered, at a depth of three feet from the surface, on the eastern side, and lying horizontally, a human skeleton, having on its head a ring of lignite, and at the feet the stone urn, and a little glass ring. The urn was distinguished from those found hitherto, by having handles at the sides and a brass cover upon the top. The mound, which was exceedingly large, was now entirely effaced.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Smith.

Sir William R. Hamilton read a supplementary Paper in illustration of his communication of the 8th of December last, on the connexion of Quaternions with continued fractions and quadratic equations.

In this paper he assigned the four Biquaternions which are the *imaginary* roots of the equation

$$q^2 = qi + j;$$

and showed that *these* were as well adapted as the two *real* roots assigned in his former communication, to furnish the real quaternion value of the continued fraction,

$$\left(\frac{j}{i+}\right)^x 0.$$

He also showed that when the continued fraction

$$u_x = \left(\frac{b}{a+}\right)^x 0$$